

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a cell, comprising the steps of irradiating a cell or a living tissue with a laser beam through an optical fiber, and cutting off, removing or boring a cell wall ~~and/or~~ a cell membrane or an entirety of the cell thus ~~irradiated~~irradiated;
wherein the cell is irradiated with the laser through reflection and condensing which are effected through a chip of quartz glass.

2. (Original) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein the laser beam has a wavelength of 500 nm or less.

3-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method set forth in ~~claim 4~~claim 1, wherein a surface of the quartz glass chip is coated with a metal.

6. (Currently Amended) The method set forth in claim 5, wherein the coating metal is at least one metal selected from the group consisting of aluminum, platinum, gold, ~~palladium~~palladium, ~~and/or~~ oxides thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein the laser is at least one laser selected from the group consisting of an YAG laser, an excimer laser, an Ar ion laser, a nitrogen laser and a nitrogen-~~exited~~excited laser.

8. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 1, which further comprises a step of introducing a foreign matter into the cell ~~and/or~~ the living cell through a laser-irradiated portion thereof after irradiation with the laser beam.

9. (Original) The method set forth in claim 8, wherein the foreign matter is at least one selected from the group consisting of a genetic substance, a protein, an organelle, a physiologically active substance and an indicating agent.

10. (Original) The method set forth in claim 9, wherein the genetic substance is at least one selected from the group consisting of a DNA, an RNA, an oligonucleotide, a plasmid, a chromosome, an artificial chromosome, an organelle DNA, and a nucleic acid analogue.

11. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein the optical fiber is hollow.

12. (Original) The method set forth in claim 11, wherein a hollow space of the optical fiber is filled with an inert gas.

13. (Original) The method set forth in claim 12, wherein the inert gas is at least one gas selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen gas, an argon gas and a helium gas.

14. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 11, wherein a wall surface of a hollow space of the optical fiber is coated with a metal.

15. (Currently Amended) A transformed ~~body~~cell, wherein a genetic substance is introduced into a cell by using the method in claim 10.